

Proclamation 5670 of June 19, 1987

American Gospel Arts Day, 1987

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Gospel music is a uniquely American art form, a fusion of the music and culture of Africa and Europe. The rich sound and vibrant rhythms of Gospel music have influenced the directions of popular music in America and indeed around the world. Born in black American church communities across our country, Gospel music has long been a popular influence, bringing joy to countless people, symbolizing a source of peaceful social change, and affirming the place of black American culture in our Nation's artistic heritage.

Today in churches, Gospel music enlivens and enriches the spirit of worship, a moving and expressive example of spontaneous celebration through song and prayer. The performance of Gospel music is a heritage well worth preserving for future generations, so they can know and share in one of our most beloved musical traditions.

In recognition of the importance of Gospel music to the history of American music, and of the traditional observance of June 19 as a special day of appreciation of the black American cultural heritage with which Gospel music is so strongly identified, the Congress, by House Joint Resolution 106, has designated June 19, 1987, as "American Gospel Arts Day" and authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this event.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim June 19, 1987, as American Gospel Arts Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this nineteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eleventh.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 5671 of June 19, 1987

National Farm Safety Week, 1987

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

We Americans know that our efficient farmers each supply food and fiber for more than 100 people, including many who live abroad. We know too, sadly, that farming and ranching have always been hazardous occupations—that every year agricultural producers suffer a disproportionate number of serious and often fatal injuries and illnesses during work, travel,

and recreation, and that an additional toll is extracted in property damage, time loss, and medical costs. We do find that accident rates are declining, however, and this good news can help us further promote farm and ranch safety.

Most accidents and work illnesses can be prevented, often by simple and inexpensive or no-cost measures. Protective equipment, used in many industries to help assure worker safety and health, proves equally useful on farms and ranches if always used when jobs or working conditions call for it. Complex preventive measures are rarely required, and safety and health information is available from many local sources. But best of all, of course, is exercising appropriate care in all daily activities to protect ourselves from potential hazards ahead of time.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RONALD REAGAN, President of the United States of America, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim the week of September 20 through September 26, 1987, as National Farm Safety Week. I urge all those who live and work on farms or ranches to take necessary precautions to protect their safety and health, both on the job and off, both at home and on the roads. I also urge everyone allied with agriculture to strengthen their safety and health efforts by example and by educational programs. I encourage all Americans to participate in appropriate events and activities in observance of National Farm Safety Week and to note the vast contributions Americans in agriculture make to our Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this nineteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and eleventh.

RONALD REAGAN

Proclamation 5672 of June 25, 1987

National Catfish Day, 1987

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

More and more Americans are discovering a uniquely American food delicacy—farm-raised catfish. In 1986, catfish comprised the third highest volume of finned fish consumed in the United States. Ninety-nine percent of all these catfish were farm-raised. Between 1975 and 1985, production of farm-raised catfish increased by 1200 percent. Most observers expect that production will continue to increase in 1987. Production costs of catfish farming, which have averaged only 65 cents per pound over the past 8 years, have resulted in a stable income for growers and an economical food product for consumers. The accompanying growth of the catfish processing industry also has created thousands of permanent jobs.

Farm-raised catfish have come a long way from their bottom-feeding ancestors. The catfish that are available today, fresh or frozen in markets nationwide, are products of state-of-the-art methods of aquaculture. They thrive in